

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)



In the matter of Possible Changes to the	)	Energy Commission
<i>Emerging Renewable Program Guidebook</i>	)	Docket No. 02-REN-1038
	)	
	)	Notice of Staff Workshop
	)	RE: Emerging Renewables Program

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## **Notice of Staff Workshop on Possible Changes to the *Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook***

California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to discuss possible changes to the *Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook*.

**TUESDAY, July 21, 2009**

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street

First Floor, Hearing Room A

Sacramento, California

(Wheelchair Accessible)

### **Remote Attendance**

**Web Conferencing:** Presentations and audio from the meeting will be broadcast via WebEx; the Energy Commission's Web conferencing system. For details on how to participate via WebEx, please see the "Participation Through WebEx" section at the end of this notice.

### **Purpose**

This workshop will solicit comments from interested parties on possible changes to the *Emerging Renewables Program (ERP) Guidebook*. The California Energy Commission directed its technical support contractor KEMA to assess the small wind market infrastructure economics and identify market barriers in California. KEMA staff will present KEMA's report at the workshop as a basis for discussion to solicit stakeholders input for possible changes to the *ERP Guidebook*.

KEMA reviewed industry reports, interviewed stakeholders, reviewed data from several surveys that were designed and conducted by California Energy Commission staff, and reviewed the current *ERP Guidebook* to assess California's existing market infrastructure for small wind systems and propose possible changes and

recommendations to the *ERP Guidebook*. Using the customer-reported performance data, KEMA conducted various analyses to assess system performance and cost-effectiveness of small wind systems in the ERP.

The KEMA report lists numerous market barriers for the small wind industry that include:

- Permitting time and costs
- Cost of small wind systems
- System installation and performance
- Product reliability and performance
- System maintenance and monitoring
- Resource adequacy
- Noise and visual issues
- Property tax increases
- Retailer and contractor quality
- Warranty requirements
- Financing
- Utility billing

Staff will invite small wind retailers, installers, and manufacturers for a panel discussion on these topics and other subject areas that affect the installation of small wind systems, and also solicit stakeholders' comments on fuel cell systems. After the workshop, staff will consider the issues and all the written and oral comments received, and brief the Energy Commission's Renewables Committee on proposed changes and recommendations to the *ERP Guidebook*.

## **Background**

The ERP was created in 1998 to accelerate the market development of specified emerging renewable technologies for on-site application, and provides funding to offset the cost of purchasing and installing eligible wind energy systems (less than 50 kilowatts in size) and fuel cells that use renewable fuels. Solar was removed from the ERP at the end of 2006 after the passage of Senate Bill 1 (Murray, Chapter 132, Statutes of 2006), which created the California Solar Initiative and the New Solar Homes Partnership. Since 1998, 412 small wind systems and two fuel cell systems have been installed under the ERP, and more than \$5.7 million in rebates have been paid out, representing 2.5 megawatts. Program activity has slowed in recent years. In 2008, only 24 small wind projects were installed and funded under the ERP, and currently for 2009, 12 projects have been funded.

In February 2009, the Energy Commission revised the *ERP Guidebook* and adopted the *ERP Guidebook*, Ninth Edition, to clarify the eligibility of fuel cell systems pursuant to Senate Bill 1250 (Perata, Chapter 512, Statutes of 2006), which allowed fuel cell systems used for the purpose of backup generation to be eligible for ERP incentives in either grid-connected or stand-alone applications. Since KEMA's report was still underway and not yet finalized at that time, staff postponed review of the small wind industry and possible *ERP Guidebook* changes to a future workshop date. Prior to the

Note: California Energy Commission's formal name is State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.

February 2009 *ERP Guidebook (9<sup>th</sup> Edition)* adoption, the previous version of the *ERP Guidebook (8<sup>th</sup> Edition)* was revised and adopted by the California Energy Commission on December 13, 2006 to remove solar PV as an eligible technology to comply with the passage of Senate Bill 1.

The *Emerging Renewables Program, Ninth Edition, Final Guidebook*, is located at:  
[www.energy.ca.gov/2009publications/CEC-300-2009-002/CEC-300-2009-002-F.PDF](http://www.energy.ca.gov/2009publications/CEC-300-2009-002/CEC-300-2009-002-F.PDF)

The KEMA report, *Emerging Renewables Program, Small Wind Incentives Study*, is available at:  
[www.energy.ca.gov/2009publications/CEC-300-2009-003/CEC-300-2009-003.PDF](http://www.energy.ca.gov/2009publications/CEC-300-2009-003/CEC-300-2009-003.PDF)

## Written Comments

Written comments on the workshop topics must be submitted by 5 p.m. on August 4, 2009. Please include the docket number 02-REN-1038 and indicate *Staff Workshop on Possible Changes to the Emerging Renewables Program Guidebook* in the subject line or first paragraph of your comments. Please hand deliver or mail an original plus 10 paper copies to:

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 02-REN-1038  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name or organization's in the name of the file. Those submitting comments by electronic mail should provide them in either Microsoft Word format or as a Portable Document (PDF) to [docket@energy.state.ca.us]. **One paper copy** must also be sent to the Energy Commission's Docket Unit.

Participants may also provide an original and 10 copies at the beginning of the workshop. All written materials relating to this workshop will be filed with the Dockets Unit and become part of the public record in this proceeding.

## Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. For information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at [PublicAdviser@energy.state.ca.us]. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance. Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us].

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For technical questions on the subject matter, please call James Lee at (916) 653-1195, or by email at [jslee@energy.state.ca.us].

## **Participation Through WebEx, the Energy Commission's on-line meeting service**

### **Computer Logon with a Direct Phone Number:**

- Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number 927 182 923.
- When prompted, enter your information and the following meeting password erp@10am.
- After you login, a prompt will appear on-screen for you to provide your phone number. In the Number box, type your area code and phone number and click OK to receive a call back on your phone for the audio of the meeting. International callers can use the "Country/Region" button to help make their connection.

### **Computer Logon for Callers With an Extension Phone Number, etc.:**

- Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number 927 182 923
- When prompted, enter your information and the following meeting password erp@10am
- After you login, a prompt will ask for your phone number. CLICK CANCEL.
- Instead call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the United States and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number above and your unique Attendee ID number which is listed in the top left area of your screen after you login. International callers can dial in using the "Show all global call-in numbers" link (also in the top left area).

### **Telephone Only (No Computer Access):**

Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the United States and Canada) and when prompted enter the unique meeting number above. International callers can select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239. Please be aware that the meeting's WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
JULIA LEVIN  
Commissioner and Presiding Member  
Renewables Committee

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
KAREN DOUGLAS  
Chair and Associate Member  
Renewables Committee

Mail Lists: 5505

**Draft Agenda**  
**Possible Changes to *the Emerging Renewable Program Guidebook***

July 21, 2009  
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION  
1516 Ninth Street, First Floor, Hearing Room A  
Sacramento, California

- 10:00 – 10:15 Welcome and overview of agenda  
(CEC - Payam Narvand)
- 10:15 – 10:30 ERP History  
ERP Activity, Current Rebate Incentives  
(CEC – Sherrill Neidich)
- 10:30 – 11:00 KEMA Report – Overview/Recommendations  
(KEMA - Nellie Tong)
- 11:00 – 12:00 Stakeholder Comments
- Break for lunch at 12:00
- 1:00 – 3:00 Permitting Panel Discussion/Comments  
(CEC – Anthony Ng)

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